

NOW READY.

THIS Work, now in the TENTH year of its existence, is ready for delivery. It has been compiled and printed at the Daily Press Office, as usual, from the best and most authentic sources, and no pains have been spared to make the work complete in all respects.

In addition to the usual varied and voluminous information, the value of the "CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY" is that it will be found of service to the sailor, the merchant, and the passenger, in the use of the NEW CODE OF SIGNALS IN USE AT THE PEAK;

THEREFORE,

THE VARIOUS HOUSE FLAGS.

(Designed especially for this Work).

MAPS OF HONGKONG, JAPAN,

and of the

THE COAST OF CHINA;

besides other local information and statistics corrected to date of publication, tending to make this work in every way suitable for Public, Mercantile, and General Offices.

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BIRTH.

On the 25th instant, the wife of A. MCG.

HEATON, Esq., of a daughter.

1164

The delivery of the Daily Press from this office commenced on Monday morning at 10:15, and the last messengers left the office at 10:35.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JUNE 25TH, 1872.

WE alluded briefly in yesterday's issue to the circumstances connected with a petition to the Governor of Macao, with reference to the farm of the Wai Sing lottery at that place. The petition, which was given at length, sets forth the main particulars connected with the contract, which were apparently as follows. Last year the Government entered into a formal contract with two Chinamen for the grant of the lottery for the term of three years, for the sum of \$6,000, and two instalments of the first year's licence money were paid to the Government; but notwithstanding this, the Government now decline to carry out the contract, on the ground that the farm ought to have been put up to auction, and the unfortunate men to whom it has been granted are forced to suffer a heavy loss, as it is only after two years that the lottery will meet expenses, and after three that it will yield a profit.

The ground upon which a refusal has been made to carry out the contract certainly appears to us the most extraordinary that has ever been brought forward. We have no acquaintance with Portuguese law, and therefore, cannot speak positively as to its bearing; but we presume the broad equitable principle that nobody can avail himself of his own wrong, is one which in one form or another must permeate every system of law, which is designed to be a means of administering justice. But we find the Portuguese Government setting a contract in the wrong way, though still according to all the formalities of law, so far as outside persons can understand, and after the unlucky Chinamen have agreed to the bargain, they come forward and say: "We have been guilty of an irregularity, and therefore you must suffer," a certainly novel and most convenient way of fulfilling an obligation.

The question naturally arises what is the object with which the Government of Macao have thought fit to retire from their bargain; and the natural conclusion of course is that they expect to get more by putting the farm up to auction than they have given up.

It is also a rather interesting question how they know this in advance. Of course a desire for regularity may be taken as an explanation; but such a desire seems somewhat strange in face of their not seeing any irregularity in failing to carry out the original contract made with the Chinamen. The view that is likely to be taken outside is not very creditable to those who are concerned in the affair. It will among other things be undoubtedly concluded that a bargain, however simple and straightforward, which is made with the Portuguese Government, cannot be relied upon, and that such bargains will be repudiated the moment it becomes the interest of the Government to do so. It is probable that the present Governor, who is new to the Colony, has not accurately seized the true bearing of the case, and has taken his views of it from subordinate officials, but still the fact, as it at present appears, places the Governor in a most unfavourable light, and unless the decision which seems to have been arrived at, is rescinded, it will be a subject of regret that almost the very commencement of his administration will be disgraced by an act which cannot but lower his country in the estimation of both Chinese and Europeans.

The public meeting, for some time spoken of with reference to the establishment of a native school, is to take place to-day, at 3 p.m. As already mentioned, H.E. the Governor will be present.

The festival of St. John the Baptist was celebrated at Macao on Sunday. A procession passed through the streets with banners and other emblems held aloft, the Bishop being placed somewhere about the centre during a gorgeous canopy, and the rear being wrought by the Volante, or the Royal Standard, which was sparingly used, and was under a strong, the service being, as we understand, compulsory within certain limits of age. The corns form a good auxiliary to the Portuguese regular troops at Macao, as at all events a show of additional force, which is useful for many purposes amongst a Chinese population.

A home telegram will be ready for delivery to Subscribers at 2 p.m. to-day.

WE are informed that measures can now be adopted for Australia. They are forwarded to the unfinished portion of the land given by horse express, which leaves to-morrow. No extra charge will be made for horse express over the unfinished portion.

Mr. Toller, the Portuguese Consul at Macao, a gentleman well-known in this Colony, has given a general account of the Chinese and their conduct to the English Consul, when he pushed overboard. The affair has created much sensation; but regarding judicial investigations, we refrain from further notice of it.

SUPREME COURT.

June 24th.

BEFORE THE HON. H. J. BELL.

Esq., Alexander Gair.

Mr. Toller applied for a claim by Captain Francis and Mr. Rosario, who appeared for Capt. Gair, having obtained a decree in the English Court, to order the English Consul to make the payment of \$1,000, and to furnish the documents of the Chinese Consul to the English Consul.

The case was then adjourned to 10 a.m. tomorrow (Wednesday).

COURT OF SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE HON. T. C. HAYLLAR.

PANG-CHING v. HODIN.—In this case the plaintiff claimed the sum of \$25.00, for non-delivery of a bag of Bichela Mer, out of some 500 bags strapped on board the *Essex* at Sydney for this port.

Mr. Wotton, who appeared for the defendant, admitted the short delivery, but stated that the answer to the plaintiff was that the Captain had been obliged to take the bag overboard, and lay days had expired. After repeated applications to the Bankrupt's clerk at Saigon for money to disburse the ship, he told Messrs. Gair & Co. he had no money, and he had received instructions to pay the crew, when he went to Saigon, to whom he was to return the bag. I went to Hongkong to whom I was told the master was referred, and they said they knew nothing of Gair & Co. The clerk said that his power had been withdrawn, and that the firm of Gair & Co. no longer existed. I went to a French lawyer some days before 14th May, and he served a summons and obtained judgment, but I did not seize any of the Bankrupt's goods. The short and he had instructions to offer \$2000, and he had no money, but he said he could not be done as his power were withdrawn. I do not know what took place between my Agents here, Rosario & Co., and the Bankrupt, who was here then. I telephoned to Rosario & Co. to make the best arrangement they could with Gair & Co. I received a telegram to the effect that Gair had made an offer, but nothing definite was done. They were doing the best they could. I first heard Mr. Gair was a Bankrupt when in England before I chartered the vessel. I did not hear that it was a Bankrupt, and when I heard of it, I went to the English Consul, and he said he was a Bankrupt. I thought the decision of the French Court was sufficient for me not to apply.

Mr. Branton, who appeared for Captain Vincent, put in a letter from Mr. Gair's clerk, stating the charter party could not be carried out. Witness, replying to Mr. Branton, said he made frequent application for cargo, and received an answer first that he had instructions to load "I asked for money, and he said he had not been paid, but nothing definite was done. They were doing the best they could. I first heard Mr. Gair was a Bankrupt when in England before I chartered the vessel. I did not hear that it was a Bankrupt, and when I heard of it, I went to the English Consul, and he said he was a Bankrupt. I thought the decision of the French Court was sufficient for me not to apply.

The witness stated this certainly was not the fact, and that it must have delayed spontaneously, perhaps from being packed damp. An answer had been made in the bag, but the answer was given that the bag was not fit for use, and he was asked to show the plaintiff, and he said he could not be done as his power were withdrawn. I do not know what took place between my Agents here, Rosario & Co., and the Bankrupt, who was here then. I telephoned to Rosario & Co. to make the best arrangement they could with Gair & Co. I received a telegram to the effect that Gair had made an offer, but nothing definite was done. They were doing the best they could. I first heard Mr. Gair was a Bankrupt when in England before I chartered the vessel. I did not hear that it was a Bankrupt, and when I heard of it, I went to the English Consul, and he said he was a Bankrupt. I thought the decision of the French Court was sufficient for me not to apply.

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Mr. Branton enquired whether the package had been damaged by water.

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Extracts.

Democracy in the Clouds.
(From "The Clerk of the Weather," in the "Cornhill Magazine.")

Now to understand the influence which the new weather-management exercised both over the upper and lower classes of society in Novelsand, let it be mentioned that on the morning of the former Day the Frau Gräfin von Nevelstadt was waiting for the dress with which she had hoped to outdo all the other ladies in the Grand Stand, tickets of admission to which had been kindly placed at her disposal by the new Clerk of the Weather, the gentleman who knew nothing of astronomy and drew a large salary. It was seven o'clock, and the dress, which had been promised for the evening before, had not yet come. Half past seven, and no sign of the dress. At 7.45 Carl, the head footman, was despatched in a car to the dressmakers', to say that, whatever was the condition of the dress, it was to be brought immediately, with a great stress, and a stamp of the coat of arms of "immediately." At 7.50 Conrad, the second footman, was sent off in a second car, to say that Gräfin begged and entreated that the dress might be finished in all haste, so that she might be in time for the Aurora Borealis. At eight if there had been a third car; but there were only two, so the Gräfin paced about her room, wringing her pretty hands in despair, until—just as her watch pointed to 8.15—there was a great rattling down below, a car drove up at the door, flushed female stepped out, bearing a lot of silk—sat, and—laughed—there was a patterning of feet on the stairs, the Frau Gräfin and the dressmaker entered together, and there in the dress room, was the Gräfin, who, had she been told a few minutes before that the dress could not be ready for another hour, would have gone down on her knees to pray the sempstress not to delay beyond that time—thought good, now that the dress was before her in a state of perfection, to make the full weight of her displeasure felt by the dressmaker, which proves that in the Duchess of Nevelstadt's case, at least, the dressmaker can as well afford to be entirely late as only half so. However, the dress once on was found to be so surpassing and the dressmaker was really so subversive and repentant that the Gräfin, who had a good heart, when things went well, gradually relented. She looked at herself in the glass, and saw that the fit was absolutely faultless. The dressmaker, who was a worthy person of what is by courtesy styled middle-age, her ladyship graciously asked what was the matter with her. "I am in great trouble," answered the dressmaker, kneeling to give a stitch to a small portion of trimming which did not sit quite smooth. "Oh dear!" exclaimed the countess, turning pale; "is it that the dress doesn't fit well behind?" "Oh, the dress fits, my lady—it's something much worse than that." The countess wondered what could possibly be worse than a dress which didn't fit behind, but being reassured by the protestations of both maid and needewoman, and having further reassured herself by causing the cheval-glass to be wheeled at right angles to that in the wardrobe panel, so that she could see with her own eyes, she recovered her equanimity, and recurred with interest to her former question. "I am in deep distress about my son, my lady," sighed the milliner, continuing to stitch—'a lad who had never given me a moment's uneasiness before, and was an angel in men's clothes, so to say." "I was not aware you had a son," replied the countess, taking from her maid's hands and placing on her own golden hair what looked like a well-ascended flower-basket, but was in reality a bonnet; "I thought you had only daughters, Frau Bundel." "Two daughters and a son, my lady, which makes three. And I know that there's nothing so troubling to a mother's heart as girls who are beginning to be smitten by gentlemen who pass down the street; so much so, that I saw to them morning and evening, 'My daughters, the girl that smiles to a gentleman at eighteen will find nothing to smile at thirty-six.' Those sentiments do you honour, Frau Bundel," remarked the Gräfin, tying her bonnetstrings. "Thank you, my lady; but, though daughters, as I say, are a care to the heart, what is to become of a mother when her only son—brought to the best school, in hopes of his becoming a doctor and rolling his brougham among the upper classes—lakes to keep company with good-for-nothing who wear no lines to speak of, and meet in low public-houses, to say that all men are equal?" Dear, how very dreadful! ejaculated the countess, flattening the bow of her bonnet with the palm of her hand, and watching the effect in the mirror. "So your son goes to public-houses, and you wanted to make a doctor of him, Frau Bundel?" "A doctor, my lady, or anything approaching," answered the modest, rising from her knees, and retreating to survey the dress as amended. "I think, my lady, if I was just to stick another point here to keep this puffing of satin flatter—puff—was not worn so full as last year, though one may say it's a matter of taste, for the Gräfin von Lilienblume wears hers very large, but then the Gräfin is a little taller than your ladyship." "Taller! Yes, indeed, Frau Bundel. I should have said a very Maypole." "Yes, my lady." "And so awkward, too." "Yes, my lady." "If she were not one of my best friends I should have called her the most absurdly dressed person in Novelsand." "Yes, my lady." "You must be quick with those stiches, Frau Bundel, for I could not be behind hand with the Aurora Borealis for all the world. Caroline, my gloves. I hope, Frau Bundel, your son will lend his ways. Drinking is, of all the vices, the worst for a young man to fall into. You must tell him that, and make him reform from this day—a great day, you know." "Ah, my lady, it's this day and the talk about it that has been the cause of all his wrong-going," moaned Frau Bundel, sewing at the puff. "But it's not from drinking, bless his heart! If it had been no worse than drinking, we might have had hopes of him—me, his sisters, and his father; but it's politics that's turning his head; and what he can find to excite him in such mischief is more than I know or can guess. Such a well-behaved boy, too, as he was when he was young, my lady! Every holiday he'd come home from school with his arms full of prizes, and he'd recite all the kings of Israel and Judah at tea, so that it was a pleasure to hear him. And it was the same when he got older, until he fell in with bad friends, and made the acquaintance of that Herr Feuerkopf, whom I should love to see hanged, though God forbid I should wish evil to any man!" "Who is Herr Feuerkopf?" asked the countess, who, having been chafed in drawing on the right-hand glove of a ten-button pair, had scarcely caught more than a stray word of it. "I fancy I read his name in the newspaper—some, these gloves don't match well with the dress, find me a paper shade of slate, the puffs." "Oh, Herr Feuerkopf, my lady, he's in the newspapers often, replied Frau Bundel, still merrily busy with the puff; "and, certainly, your ladyship must have heard his name many a time, for, wherever

some English newspaper, she was rather surprised to find they wore 'Tory' papers, not having been previously advised that the newspapers supplied by the Foreign Office to the British legation abroad were either Whig or Tory, according to the party of the ministry of the day. A commercial treaty between the Zollverein and Belgium having just been concluded, I explained its provisions to Lord Palmerston, as he took much interest in the progress of the Zollverein, and indeed in most commercial questions. His presence in Berlin excited general curiosity, although it was not well understood that his journey was one of recreation only. He did not bring his uniform with him, and was obliged to ask the king's special permission to be presented in plain clothes—a very rare occurrence—the etiquette of the Prussian court requiring that all presentations to the king and queen, or to other members of the royal family, must be made either in uniform, or old-fashioned court dress. The latter costume is now rarely used, as almost every man who goes to court is entitled to wear either a civil or military uniform. Even "Experiences of a Diplomat," by John Ward, C.B.

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JAS. B. COUGHTRIE
Secretary
Hongkong, 1st November, 1871. [d 328]

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Secretaries
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THE Undersigned having been appointed Agent for the above Company at this port, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire, to the extent of £10,000, on Buildings or on Goods stored therein.

AUGUSTINE HEARD & CO.
Secretaries
Hongkong, 1st April, 1871.

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